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# Anti-U.S. ire rising in Poland

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WARSAW — When the U.S. Embassy here held a public showing of the television special "Let Poland Be Poland," produced by the U.S. government, there was a larger turnout than expected.

Half of the people in the crowd, about 150, were Warsaw residents who tried to enter the embassy grounds to watch the program on closed-circuit television.

The rest were hard-faced Polish riot policemen with assault rifles. They arrived a half-hour before the showing and prevented any of the Poles from getting in.

The show went on but with only a few diplomats and resident Americans on hand.

Crowds have not been popular in Poland since the imposition of martial law Dec. 13, and neither have Americans.

Longtime residents here say the pitch of official propaganda against U.S. policy is the most shrill since the Vietnam War.

"The clock's been turned way back," said a U.S. diplomat here. "Can you imagine, a whole decade of improving relations down the drain just like that?"

The propaganda has focused on what officials call the "anti-Polish campaign" launched by President Reagan. A frequent target of the attacks, which appear daily in the state-run press, are trade and economic sanctions imposed by Reagan in response to martial law.

But other aspects of U.S. foreign policy also are fair game. Especially popular is any news that can be used to portray Washington as filled with militaristic bogymen, hell-bent on war.

## Even the Vietnam War

Thus Polish television recently carried a long documentary about what it said was the growing American military role in El Salvador. Earlier it showed footage of U.S. troops in action in Vietnam.

One day last week nearly half of the foreign news in the Warsaw daily *Zycie Warszawy* was devoted to what might be called anti-American reports.

One article reported on the beefing up of U.S. strategic forces. Another told about deployment of chemical weapons — American-made, of course — by NATO countries. A third was about NATO meetings in Munich, and a fourth told of NATO maneuvers in Norway.

Yet another report gave the latest twist about connections between the Salvadoran government and the U.S. military.

All Polish media were livid about the "Let Poland Be Poland" program and gleefully reported that the Jan. 30 "Solidarity Day" declared by Reagan failed to draw huge crowds.

On a more sinister note, radio, television and newspapers here have begun a campaign against the CIA, apparently as a warning to Polish citizens to restrict their contacts with foreigners in general and Americans in particular.

Late in January, Polish television carried a six-part series titled "Who Is Who?" The programs included accusations that three former U.S. diplomats and two Polish employees of the U.S. Embassy had worked for the CIA.

A more chilling case was the espionage trial of a former Polish Foreign Ministry official, Bogdan Walewski. He was said to have been recruited by the CIA years ago.

## A broken man

Last weekend, after being sentenced to 25 years, Walewski, weeping and obviously broken, appeared in a nationally televised interview acknowledging the error of his ways.

In case anyone missed the show or the point, *Zycie Warszawy* and other newspapers made it clearer in their Monday editions.

"Spying of any kind," the newspapers said in the middle of otherwise factual accounts of the sentencing, "has been and always will be the most dangerous activity against a country."

Few Poles accept the official line. Their connections with the United States are too close, and their society is too interwoven with aspects of Western life to accept their government's 180-degree policy shift.

Even the U.S. sanctions, which even American officials realize will lower Polish living standards, are not considered out of bounds.

"In the short term it will hurt us, that is clear," said an employee of the Polish Academy of Science. "But it is absolutely necessary in the long term. This should force them [the Polish government] to come up with some way to make this country more self-sufficient in agriculture."

An engineer expressed a view that reflected the traditional antipathy of many Poles toward the Soviet Union. "Reagan's a hero," he said. "He's the first man that's been in the White House for years. He is standing up to the Russians."

But there is less backing among workers for the sanctions. Foreign journalists visiting the Baltic cities of Gdansk and Gdynia last week heard laborers to a man criticize the effect on an already difficult food situation.

Working men are said to have been especially hard hit by food price increases of up to 400 percent that took effect Feb. 1.

"Reagan's sanctions will hurt our living standards, but they won't change our political system," said one hard-hatted man in the Lenin shipyards at Gdansk.